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Listing of Claims

1-3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) A tool for forming a reinforcing bar connection comprising: A tool as set forth in claim 3, including
opposed drivers adapted each to engage a seat supporting a tapered sleeve positioned over bar ends; and
means to drive the seats axially of the bar ends to force the sleeves over a jaw assembly positioned on the bar ends to cause the jaw assembly to contract and grip the bar ends;

wherein the means to drive the seats includes:

a pair of arms each engaging a respective seat for movement toward each other;

power means to move said arms toward each other; and

cam means translating movement of said power means to said arms.

5. (Currently Amended) A tool as set forth in claim 4 including a collar forming the respective seats, and a self-releasing collet in each collar.

6. (Currently Amended) A tool for forming a reinforcing bar connection comprising: A tool as set forth in claim 3
opposed drivers adapted each to engage a seat supporting a tapered sleeve positioned over bar ends; and
means to drive the seats axially of the bar ends to force the sleeves over a jaw assembly positioned on the bar ends to cause the jaw assembly to contract and grip the bar ends;

wherein the means to drive the seats includes:

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a pair of arms each engaging a respective seat for movement toward each other; and

power means to move said arms toward each other; and

wherein said power means comprises a piston-cylinder assembly, and a cam roller driven by said piston-cylinder assembly to move said arms.

7. (Original) A tool as set forth in claim 6 including a cam on one arm engaging said roller, and a tension link connecting said roller to said other arm.

8. (Original) A tool as set forth in claim 7 wherein said arms are coaxially pivoted together.

9. (Original) A tool as set forth in claim 8 wherein said piston-cylinder assembly is pivotally supported by a mounting bracket extending from said coaxial pivot and secured to one arm.

10. (Withdrawn) A tool as set forth in claim 6 including two cam rollers driven by said piston-cylinder assembly, and a cam on each arm engaging a respective roller.

11. (Withdrawn) A tool as set forth in claim 10 including truss means connecting said rollers and to said piston-cylinder assembly.

12. (Withdrawn) A tool as set forth in claim 11 wherein said arms are pivoted to said piston-cylinder assembly each on opposite sides thereof.

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14. (Currently Amended) A tool as set forth in claim 15, 43, wherein the power means includes including a fluid piston-cylinder assembly operative to pivot said arms to drive the seats axially of the bar ends.

15. (Currently Amended) A tool for forming a reinforcing bar splice comprising:
~~A tool as set forth in claim 13 including~~

a pair of pivoting arms, the distal ends of which form oppositely facing drivers adapted to engage seats receiving oppositely facing tapered sleeves positioned over aligned bar ends;

power means to drive the seats axially of the bar ends to force the sleeves over a jaw assembly positioned on the bar ends to cause the jaw assembly to contract to grip and splice the bar ends; and

cam means driven by said power means to obtain a mechanical advantage in movement of said seats.

16. (Original) A tool as set forth in claim 14, including means to apply pressure to the blind end of the piston-cylinder assembly to force the sleeves over the jaw assembly.

17. (Original) A tool as set forth in claim 15 wherein said cam means is on one arm.

18. (Withdrawn) A tool as set forth in claim 15 wherein said cam means is on both arms.

19. (Original) A tool as set forth in claim 15, including roller means driven by said power means engaging said cam means.

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20. (Withdrawn) A tool as set forth in claim 18 including respective roller means for said cam means driven by said power means.

21. (Currently Amended) A tool as set forth in claim 15 ~~13~~ including the seats, and means to open and close said seats for positioning on said bar ends.

22-34. (Canceled)

35. (Previously Presented) A rebar tool comprising power operated pivoting arms, a distal end of each arm being provided with a notch to accommodate a bar passing therethrough, each distal end also including a bearing section on each side of the notch, with a rounded surface operative to engage and drive rebar tooling when said arms are closed.

36. (Canceled)

37. (Currently Amended) A rebar tool as set forth in claim 35 ~~36~~ including bar shear tooling driven by said arms.

38. (Currently Amended) A rebar tool as set forth in claim 35 ~~36~~ including bar forming tooling driven by said arms.

39. (Currently Amended) A rebar tool as set forth in claim 35 ~~36~~ including coupling forming wedge sleeve driving tooling driven by said arms.

40. (Original) A rebar tool as set forth in claim 35 including power means to close said arms, and cam means on at least one of said arms to cause said power means to pivot said arms.

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41. (Previously Presented) A rebar tool as set forth in claim 35, including a piston-cylinder assembly to close the arms, and a cam roller coupled to the piston-cylinder assembly, wherein the cam roller engages a cam surface on at least one of the arms to cause the piston-cylinder assembly to pivot the arms.

42. (Previously Presented) A tool for forming a reinforcing bar connection, comprising:

a pair of arms adapted each to engage a respective seat supporting a tapered sleeve positioned over bar ends; and

a cam roller engaging a cam surface on one of the arms to thereby drive the seats axially of the bar ends to force the sleeves over a jaw assembly positioned on the bar ends to cause the jaw assembly to contract and grip the bar ends.

43. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 42, wherein the cam roller is coupled to the other of the arms by a tension link.

44. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 43, wherein the tension link is pivotally coupled to the other of arms by a pivot pin.

45. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 43, wherein the tension link is coupled to another cam roller that engages a cam surface on the other of the arms.

46. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 42, wherein the arms are pivotally coupled to one another about a common pivot point.

47. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 42, wherein the arms each have a notch to accommodate a reinforcing bar passing thereinto.

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48. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 42, further comprising a piston-cylinder assembly coupled to the cam roller, to drive the cam roller and thereby to move the arms.

49. (Previously Presented) A tool for forming a reinforcing bar splice, comprising:

a pair of pivoting arms, the distal ends of which form oppositely facing drivers adapted to engage seats receiving oppositely facing tapered sleeves positioned over aligned bar ends; and

a piston-cylinder assembly to drive the seats axially of the bar ends to force the sleeves over a jaw assembly positioned on the bar ends to cause the jaw assembly to contract to grip and splice the bar ends.

50. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 49, further comprising a cam roller coupled to the piston-cylinder assembly and engaging a cam surface on one of the arms.

51. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 50, wherein the cam roller is coupled to the other of the arms by a tension link.

52. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 51, wherein the tension link is pivotally coupled to the other of arms by a pivot pin.

53. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 51, wherein the tension link is coupled to another cam roller that engages a cam surface on the other of the arms.

54. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 50, further comprising an additional cam roller that engages a cam surface on the other of the arms.

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55. (Previously Presented) A tool for forming a reinforcing bar connection, comprising:

a pair of arms adapted each to engage a respective seat supporting a tapered sleeve positioned over bar ends;

a tension link coupling the arms together; and

a cam roller that engages a cam surface to drive the seats axially of the bar ends to force the sleeves over a jaw assembly positioned on the bar ends to cause the jaw assembly to contract and grip the bar ends.

56. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 55, wherein the cam surface is on one of the arms.

57. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 56, wherein the cam roller is pivotally coupled to the other of the arms by the tension link.

58. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 55, wherein the arms are pivotally coupled to one another about a common pivot point.

59. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 55, wherein the arms each have a notch to accommodate a reinforcing bar passing thereinto.

60. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 55, further comprising a piston-cylinder assembly engaging the cam roller and the cam surface.

61. (Currently Amended) A tool as set forth in claim 4, ~~4~~, wherein the tool does not translate relative to the bar ends as the seats are driven axially of the bar ends.

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62. (Currently Amended) A tool as set forth in claim 15, ~~43~~, wherein the tool does not translate relative to the bar ends as the seats are driven axially of the bar ends.